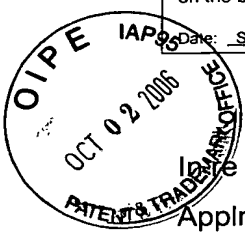


J.F.W.  
\$



**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: September 28, 2006 Name: Carolyn Beason-Wright Signature: Carolyn Beason-Wright

**BRINKS  
HOFFER  
GILSON  
& LIONE**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor Appln. of: **Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.**

Appln. No.: **10/769,962**

Filed: **February 2, 2001**

For: **TRACHEOSTOMY TUBE AND LOADING DILATOR**

Attorney Docket No: **10703/042 (PA-5375-RFB)**

Examiner: **Ali, Shumaya B.**

Art Unit: **3743**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL**

Sir:

**Attached is/are:**

- ☒ Request for Extension of Time; Response to Office Action of June 13, 2006
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

**Fee calculation:**

- ☐ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ Small Entity.
- ☒ An extension fee in an amount of **\$120.00** for a one-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
- ☐ A petition or surcharge in an amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(e).
- ☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity			Not a Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total	30	Minus	31	0	x \$25=			x \$50=	
Indep.	4	Minus	4	0	x 100=			x \$200=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=			+\$360=	
					Total	\$		Total	\$

**Fee payment:**

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.
- ☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of **\$120.00**. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
- ☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

Sep. 28, 2006  
Date

Lawrence A. Steward (Reg. No. 32,309)